

From: Ted Grimes
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/18/02 10:25am
Subject: Microsoft settlement

Dear Judge Kollar-Kotelly,

I appreciate the request that we consumers respond to the settlement with regard to Microsoft. I have been a "Microsoft consumer" for many years and am using Microsoft products to produce this email.

I truly fear that this whole project by our government against a successful commercial enterprise has been overbearing and largely unjust. It seems to me that jealousy, envy and greed are accurate labels to apply to our system of criminal justice, in this case, from the lowliest attorney to the highest court involved, including the suing states. Class warfare? Yes. Take from the rich to satisfy this baser urge to knock down the successful? Yes. Is success being punished for any right reason? I have my doubts.

I connect the current recession, at least in part, to the anti-big-business efforts that are popular among certain political parties and labor unions. It seems to be a power struggle of the mighty forces of government against a vulnerable big business with enviable success. And the root of this evil is the love of money.

Vice President Quayle had it right in his report on reform of the legal profession, reported toward the end of his administration's term in office. Frivolous lawsuits motivated by the money trail continue to dominate our culture. It is politically and culturally incorrect to criticize our judiciary and the elements that make it up. In fact it can be downright dangerous. Just ask Dan or Bill Gates.

It seems culturally and politically correct to pick on the medical profession at will, warranted or not. The cost of litigation, no matter whether or not it is just, has increased our cost of purchasing medical care and pharmaceuticals, autos and airplanes, and you name it, above and beyond what is reasonable.

Arbitration should be used between disagreeing parties first. Lawyers should be by-passed, as well as the courts, at this level in our society. Lets get reasonable, enough is enough. Intelligent persons often can work things out to everyone's satisfaction. If not, the legal wars take over at hugely inflated cost.

Many doctors would probably practice medicine a few more years had they not feared the "loss of everything in one fell swoop" on any given response to the emergency room. The chill of this kind of over bearing so called justice is high in the mind of any investor. Is the risk really worth it?

The Microsoft settlement is chilling on business and society. The original judge in the matter was awful in his mis-use of power.

I sincerely disagree with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gates promotion of the slaughter of innocents, world wide. Their money could be used humanely in many ways.

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